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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER				
JOHNSON, STEPHEN				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/590,830

Applicant(s)

KRAVITZ, ARNOLD

Examiner

Stephen M. Johnson

Art Unit

3641

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 10-17, 19 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8, 9 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 August 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

1. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
2. The terms "high speed" and "high bandwidth" in claim 5 is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "high" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. The term "high" only has meaning when used in a comparative context. What is high speed relative to one speed may be low speed relative to another speed.
3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 17 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Barnes (288).

Barnes (288) discloses a method of countering an airborne threat comprising:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| a) determining threat information; | col. 4, lines 51-55 |
| b) transmitting threat information to a remote device; | col. 3, lines 4-8; 38-41 |
| c) a remote device; | TIC; col. 3, lines 8-14 |
| d) transmitting source information; | see fig. 3 |
| e) receiving instructions to deploy a countermeasure; | col. 5, lines 23-30 |
| f) deploying said selected countermeasure; | col. 5, lines 23-30 |

- g) referring to the process as a track file; col. 4, lines 21-26
- h) location of the target being a consideration; and see fig. 3
- i) source information is related to time. col. 3, lines 1-20

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 7 and 10-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes (288) in view of Malakatas (388).

Barnes (288) applies as previously recited. However, undisclosed is receiving the threat information from the remote source or remote firing unit. Malakatas (388) teaches receiving the threat information from the remote source or remote firing unit (col. 4, lines 40-54). Applicant is providing a particular location for the sensor providing information about the incoming airborne threat in an analogous art setting with expected or predictable results. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in this art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Malakatas to the Barnes method of countering airborne threats and have a method whose method for receiving information is via a sensor located on the remote source or remote firing unit.

7. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Malakatas (388) in view of Ebert et al. (059).

Malakatas (388) discloses a system for countering airborne threats comprising:

- a) at least one remote weapons system; 112, 212

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| b) a countermeasure system; | 114, 214 |
| c) a central countermeasure management system; | 12 |
| d) a local countermeasure deployment device; | col. 3, lines 23-30 |
| e) multiple missile threats; | col. 5, lines 13-42 |
| f) communication linkage; and | 70 |
| g) a description of the countermeasures available communicated | col. 15, lines 15-47 |
- to the central countermeasure management system.

Malakatas (388) applies as recited above. However, undisclosed is a remote weapon system that is an aircraft with associated countermeasures. Ebert et al. (059) teach a remote weapons system that is an aircraft with associated countermeasures (14, 12, 34, 36, 46). Applicant is substituting one type of remote weapons system with associated countermeasures for another in an analogous art setting as explicitly encouraged by the primary reference (see col. 3, lines 58-62 of Malakatas) with expected or predictable results. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in this art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Ebert et al. to the Malakatas countermeasure system and have a countermeasure system wherein the remote weapons system is an aircraft.

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(c) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

9. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Steadman et al. (152).

Steadman et al. (152) disclose a countermeasure system comprising:

- a) at least one aircraft; 140
- b) an airborne countermeasure system; 142a, 144a, 144b
- c) a local countermeasure deployment device; 142b, 150
- d) multiple missile threats; and col. 3, lines 56-63
- e) a communication link. 120

10. Claims 2-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Steadman et al. (152) in view of Barnes (288).

Steadman et al. (152) apply as previously recited. However, undisclosed are a plurality of aircraft for deploying countermeasures. Barnes (288) teaches a plurality of aircraft for deployment of countermeasures (col. 3, lines 21-27). Applicant is substituting a plurality of aircraft for the aircraft and ground base response countermeasure arrangement of Steadman et al. as explicitly encouraged by the secondary reference (see col. 3, lines 21-27 of Barnes) with expected or predictable results. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in this art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Barnes to the Steadman et al. countermeasure system and have a countermeasure system with different remote site arrangements or locations.

11. Claims 8-9 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit: 3641

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen M. Johnson whose telephone number is 571-272-6877 and whose e-mail address is (Stephen.Johnson@uspto.gov). The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Carone can be reached on 571-272-6873. The Central FAX phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 800-786-9199.

/Stephen M. Johnson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3641

Stephen M. Johnson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3641

SMJ
March 6, 2008